

CAROLINA PORTLAND CEMENT CO.
Sole Distributors of
VULCANITE.
Highest Grade American Portland, Guarantees Superior
to Any American Portland Made.
Also Full Stock of German and Belgian Cements
at Baltimore, Newport News and other ports.
WRITE FOR OUR PRICES.

FIRST TORPEDOES MADE HERE AND USED IN THE JAMES RIVER

Despite the Study of This Method
of Warfare, More Was Accomplished by Confederacy
Than Has Been Accomplished for Many
Years Since.

Colonel Richard L. Maury, a son of Commodore Matthew Fontaine Maury, has written for The Times-Dispatch an extremely interesting article on the invention and use of torpedoes, in which he father was the pioneer, and to the perfection of which he himself and other brave naval officers of the Confederacy devoted themselves with all the abandon which a devotion to a cause for the cause's sake can evoke. The interest caused by the destruction of Russian vessels by means of torpedoes gives increased interest to the article which is printed in full below:



CAPTAIN RICHARD L. MAURY.

without the use of proper mechanical resources.

His trial experiments to explode under water were made with minute charges of powder and submerged in an ordinary washbasin in his chamber at the house of his cousin, Robert H. Maury, on Clay Street, and the tank for actual use, with their triggers for explosion and other mechanical appliances for service, were made by Talbot and Son, on Cary Street, under their ready and intelligent direction.

In the early summer of 1861 the Secretary of the Navy and the chairman of the Naval Committee of Congress and others, were invited to witness an explosion in James River at Rocketts. The torpedo was a small keg of powder, weighted to sink, fitted with a trigger to explode by percussion, to be fired, when in place, with a lanyard. The Patrick Henry gun was borrowed; Captain Maury and the writer got aboard with the torpedo, and were rowed to the middle of the channel just opposite where the wharf of the James River Steamboat Company now is, whereon the spectator stood; the torpedo was carefully lowered to the bottom, taking great care not to strain upon the trigger, which was at full cock; the lanyard loosely held on board; the boat pulled clear, and the writer pulled the lanyard. The explosion was instantaneous; up went a column of water fifteen or twenty feet; many stunned or dead fish floated around; the officials on the wharf applauded and were convinced, and shortly after a naval bureau of "coast harbor and river defense" was created, and Captain Maury placed at its head with abundant funds for the work, and the very best of intelligent, able and zealous younger naval officers as assistants.

MINED THE RIVER.
In a month or two he had mined the channel of the river just opposite Chaffin's Bluff, with fixed torpedoes to be exploded by contact, having then no insulated wire with which to explode by electricity, and during that summer and fall several attempts with floating torpedoes were made against the Federal squadron at Fortress Monroe, one of which he personally directed (July, 1861); another (October, 1861), by one of his assistant associates, Lieutenant Robert D. Minor, also of Fredericksburg. He thus describes them: "These torpedoes were in pairs, connected together by a span 500 feet long. The span was floated on the surface by corks, and the torpedo barrels, containing 20 pounds of powder, also floated at the depth of twenty feet, empty barrels, painted lead color, so as not really to be seen, serving for the purpose. The span was connected with a trigger in the head of each barrel, so set and arranged that when the torpedo being let go in a tide way under the bows and athwart the hawse had fouled, they would be drifted alongside, and in so drifting tauten the span, and so set off the fuse, which was driven precisely as a ten seconds shot fuse, only it was calculated to burn fifty-four seconds, because it could not be known exactly in which part of the sweep along tide the strain would be sufficient to set off the trigger. The torpedoes were launched at three fine frigates, the "Albatross," the "Ranook" and the "Cumberland." Finding that they all missed, I attributed it to the fact that such a fuse could not burn under a pressure of twenty feet of water. The conjecture was confirmed by experiment. The fuse could burn very surely at the depth of fifteen feet, never at twenty feet. Some time afterwards these torpedoes were discovered by the enemy. Spans, barrels and barrels were soon got up, and carried off as relics. The enemy prevented any further attack in this way by dropping the end of his lower studding sail boom in the water every night, anchoring boats or beams ahead."

GREW IN FAVOR.
To obtain insulated wire an agent was sent to New York in secret, but failed, and as there was neither wire factory or insulating material in the South, the difficulties of preparing electrical torpedoes to which he attached the greatest importance and greatly preferred, seemed insuperable, until by a remarkable coincidence, in the following spring, it happened that the enemy attempting to lay a cable across Chesapeake Bay to Fortress Monroe were forced to abandon the attempt and left the wire to the beach near Norfolk, where by the kindness of a friend, it was secured for Captain Maury's use. With part of this he was enabled to mine James River below the obstruction with electrical torpedoes, which destroyed every Federal vessel that attempted to pass them, and kept their powerful fleet at bay during the entire war, and with part to enable other southern harbors to be similarly protected.

Meantime torpedoes were rapidly growing in public favor, new designs and improvements, suggested by experience, were multiplied by the active brain of the many clever young naval officers, whose withdrawal from the United States navy left it paralyzed for years, and torpedoes of all kinds were to be found in all our waters whenever Federal ships appeared. Lieutenant Beverly Kennon, of Virginia, set them afloat in the Potomac, and later was instrumental, he said, in procuring the first actual destruction of the Confederacy in the United States navy when the Yazo River by Meisters McDaniel and Ewing, with a ground torpedo—a demolition filled with powder and fired with a trigger by a string leading to the operator hidden on the bank. General Rains, chief of the army torpedo bureau, advised the best use, filled with powder, and fitted with a percussion primer at each end, as the best form, and set hundreds of them afloat, to be carried by current and tide against the enemy's vessels below. Captain Francis D. Lee, of General Beauregard's staff, recommended the use of a torpedo, L. E. a torpedo set upon the end of a twenty foot spar, rigged upon the bow of a boat, to be fired by impact upon the sides of the vessel attacked; and Dr. St. Julien-hor Hodgson and Phidiotoni with Captain Maury, designed and constructed at his own expense, a semi-submarine torpedo called a "David," rigged with a spar torpedo, with which at Charleston, Lieutenant Glassell struck and permanently disabled the new iron-plate, the most powerful vessel then afloat. Shortly after, and with a submarine torpedo boat, the first ever used, designed and constructed with his private means by Mr. Horace L. Hundley, of New Orleans, but then living in Mobile, who was drowned in her, Lieutenant Dixon, of Mobile, of the army, with unsurpassable courage, attacked the Federal steamer Housatonic, and sunk her, and his crew, and his pioneer submarine torpedo boat, all went to the bottom with their victim, where divers found them after the war lying side by side.

And John Maxwell, of Richmond, with unhesitating intrepidity, with his own hands handed a clock torpedo aboard a vessel at City Point, which blew her to pieces in a few moments, killing many and spreading consternation all around.

WENT ABROAD.
By the fall of 1862 the importance of Captain Maury's work and his capabilities had become so highly appreciated that it was deemed best that he should go to England, that he might have every opportunity for the development and improvement afforded by the workshops and laboratories and facilities for experiment and construction. Accordingly he was ordered abroad in this service, where he remained, pursuing his researches, perfecting his work, and constantly reporting progress to the Navy Department at home for the instruction of the torpedo workers there, until just before the close of the war, which found him at sea on route for home, with a most powerful, perfect and complete equipment of electrical torpedo material, perhaps never since equalled.

His valuable assistant in the James River defense was Lieutenant Hunter Dickson, who succeeded him in that charge, which he says he himself put down, Captain Maury's having been washed out by a severe fever after he had gone. His operation crippled and destroyed two Federal vessels—the only ones, he says, destroyed by electrical torpedoes during the war. With a torpedo boat of his own construction and design, constructed here in Richmond, rigged with a spar torpedo, he most courageously ventured a hundred miles and more down the river, into the enemy's lines, and rammed the frigate Minnesota, lying off Newport News. He exploded the torpedo, but the charge was too small, and but little damage was done or suffered.

GALLANT ATTACKS.
Besides these, numerous gallant attacks were made with torpedoes everywhere, despite the danger and death which often accompanied their use, and many of the older officers, who at first regarded them with disfavor, as Captain Parker said he did, were now torpedoes. "Commodore Tucker and I," he said,

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Don't Wait Until You Are Worse

Taken in time, the suffering of this little one would have been prevented. Her mother writes me: "Two years ago my little girl was sick continuously for six months. We tried many doctors, and they failed, yet it took only two bottles of your remedy to cure her, and she has remained cured. You can tell others of this cure if you so desire."

Mrs. C. H. Avery, Rockdale, N. Y.

"It is a pity she did not first write me, before the case was dangerous."

The wife of Omer Andrus, of Bayou Chicot, La., had been sick for 20 years. For 8 years could do practically no work. He writes:

"When she first started taking the Restorative she barely weighed 50 pounds; now she weighs 135, and is able easily to do all her house work."

Twenty "dark" years might have been "bright" ones. J. G. Billingsley, of Thompkinsville, Ga., for three years has been crippled with disease. Now he is well. He writes:

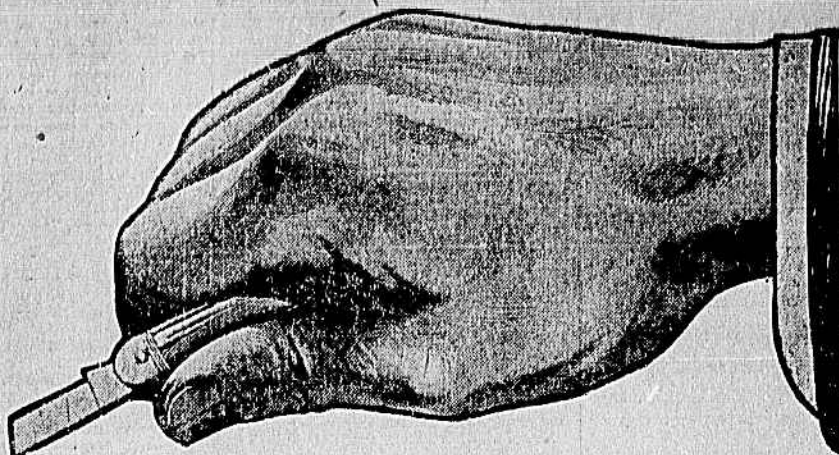
"I spent \$250.00 for other medicines, and the \$2.00 I have spent with you have done me more good than all the rest."

Both money and suffering might have been saved. And these are only three from over 85,000 similar cases. These letters—dozens of them—come every day to me.

How much serious illness the Restorative has prevented. I have no means of knowing for the slightly ill, and the indisposed simply get a bottle or two of their druggist, and cure; and I never hear from them.

But of 600,000 sick ones—seriously sick, mind you—who asked for my guarantee, 39 out of each 40 have paid. Paid because they got well.

If I can succeed in curing like these—fall but one time in 40, in diseases deep-seated and chronic—Isn't it certain I can always cure the slightly ill?



Cut This Out and Know How to Get Well

That is all. Send no money. Simply sign above. Tell me the book you need. I will arrange with a druggist near you for six bottles of

Dr. Shoop's Restorative

Take it a month at my risk. If it succeeds the cost to you is \$5.50. If it fails the druggist will bill the cost to me. And I leave the decision to you.

Why The Restorative Succeeds

You may oil and rub, adjust and repair a weak engine. It will never be stronger nor do its work better, without steam. More power—more steam is necessary.

And so with the vital organs. Doctor them as you will. That's more repairing. Permanent cures never come save through treating the nerves that operate those organs.

And that my Restorative does.

After almost a lifetime of labor—of study at bedside and research in hospitals—I made this discovery. I found a way to treat, not the organs themselves, but the nerves—the inside nerves—that operate those organs and gives them power and strength and health. That discovery has shown me the way to cure.

It makes my offer possible.

I know the remedy. I never forget the study, all the research, the trials and tests that perfected it. I have watched its action year after year in cases difficult, discouraging. Time after time I have seen it bring back health to those poor ones whom hope had almost deserted. I know what it will do.

My only problem is to convince you.

And so I make my offer. And the bare fact that I make such an offer ought of itself to convince you that I know how to cure. Please read it again. It means exactly what I say. No catch—no misleading phrases in it. Simply this—you take the medicine and I will take the risk.

And you—not I—decide if you are to pay.

All You Need To Do

Simply sign the above—that is all. Ask for the book you need. The offer I make is broad—is liberal. The way is easy—is simple. The Restorative is certain. But do not misunderstand me.

This is not free treatment, with nothing ever to pay. Such an offer would be misleading—would be little the physician who made it. But I believe in a sick one's honesty—his gratitude. That when he is cured he will pay the cost of the treatment—and gladly.

I make this offer so that those who might doubt, may learn at my risk.

Tell of it, please, to a friend who is sick. Or send me his name. That's but a trifle to ask—a minute's time—a postal. He is your friend. You can help him. My way may be his only way to get well.

I, a stranger, offer to do all this. Won't you, his friend, his neighbor, simply write?

He will learn from my book a way to get well. Perhaps, as I say, the only way for him. His case may be serious—hopeless almost. Other physicians—other specialists, may have failed. The matter is urgent, then.

Write me a postal or sign above to-day.

Address Dr. Shoop, Box 6288, Racine, Wis.

A MERRY GOLDEN WEDDING IN SOUTH MECKLENBURG



(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
SOUTH GILL, VA., Feb. 13.—Mr. P. F. Smith and his worthy wife celebrated their golden wedding at the family homestead near Whitte's Mills, in the lower end of Mecklenburg county, January 30th.

The occasion was a joyful one, and celebrated with the descendants of several generations surrounding the aged, but happy lovers.

Mr. P. F. Smith was born January 14, 1827, near Whitte's Mills, Mecklenburg county, Va. He was married January 30, 1834, to Miss Mary A. Johnson, of Nottoway county Va., who was born near Blackstone July 2, 1832. They raised

five children, three girls and two boys, all married. With their husbands, wives and children, fifteen in number, all attended the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the aged couple.

It was a little remarkable that almost in midwinter, with eight inches of snow on the ground, all living some distance off, that every child and grandchild should be present.

The presents were profuse and varied, many in coin, as it is hard to obtain any appropriate for such an occasion in the backwoods of Southside Virginia.

The most valuable and appropriate present was a golden tea set of eight or ten pieces, sent by a nephew and niece.

The table was worthy of a first marriage, groaning under the delicacies of the season, interspersed with oysters and succulent wine, made by the celebrants. He had present a photographer to take the group of the family. He selected an excellent cedar for background, and all were placed in position out in the snow.

The family, twenty-eight in number, and two spectators, composed the group of thirty.

The day passed off pleasantly with the young, and the couple that had been married fifty years seemed to lay all cares aside and were as happy as any in the group.

had a drink he does his measuring in a gun barrel. Thus he complies with the letter, but not with the spirit, of the law.—Lexington Gazette.

GREAT STRIDES OF THE PRUDENTIAL.
The claim of The Prudential Insurance Company of America that it "Has the Strength of Gibraltar" is amply justified by the figures shown in its annual statement, just published.

From these figures it appears that no less a sum than \$250,000,000 of paid-for life insurance was written during the year 1903, bringing the total amount of paid-for life insurance in force up to the astonishing sum of \$831,000,000.

The number of policies in force is over five million, or in other words, it may be stated that more than one million families enjoy the benefits of life insurance protection through The Prudential.

There is a surplus of more than \$10,000,000 available, to be drawn upon if necessary, and Prudential policyholders are to be congratulated upon the strength and prosperity of the institution in which they have invested their savings. Write to the Home Office of the Company, Newark, N. J., for information concerning its policies, which furnish guaranteed protection to the family as well as dividends to the policyholders.

PHI BETA KAPPA REUNION HERE

Committee Soon to Announce Interesting Programme—Noted Men Coming From Distance.

The local committee appointed to arrange for the celebration of the one hundred and Twenty-seventh anniversary of the Phi Beta Kappa Society will announce in a few days the date of the celebration and the full programme which is to be carried out.

Dr. W. L. Pugh and Mr. Plummer F. Jones, the two members of the committee here, have been endeavoring to make the arrangements so as to insure the attendance of every member of the society in Virginia. Beside being a general reunion and introduction into the Virginia Phi Beta Kappas, the convention will initiate some men of national reputation, and will probably bring back to the State some of the noted intellects of Phi Beta Kappa now living elsewhere. Among them will be Dr. Thomas

Nelson Page and Hon. Harry St. George Tucker, of Washington, and Hon. James Lindsay Gordon and Dr. Robert Underwood Johnson, associate editor of the Century Magazine, both of New York. In a list of the members of the society recently published, a number of names were accidentally or unavoidably omitted. In addition to the forty-six names included therein, the following should be added:

Williamsburg—John Leslie Hall, D. D.; Thomas Jefferson Stubbs, Ph. D.; Lyon G. Tyler, M. A., LL. D.; Professor Hugh S. Bird, Jr., Ph. D.; Van P. Garrett, Dr. Lyman B. Wharton and Charles Edward Bishop, Ph. D.

The following additional members should be included in the list of Richmond Phi Beta Kappas: Dr. Lyman B. Tefft and Miss Evelyn D. Johnson, professor in the Harbison Memorial College, and Dr. F. G. Lewis and Dr. George Rice Hovey, D. D., Professors in Virginia Union University. All of the four members mentioned above are initiates of the Rhode Island Alpha Chapter at Brown University, Providence.

Mr. Plummer F. Jones, the secretary, has recently received a letter from Dr. J. W. Mallet, professor of chemistry at the University of Virginia, stating that there were four members of Phi Beta Kappa in the faculty of that institution. In addition to the name of Professor James A. Harrison, the names of Professors Francis H. Smith, Richard H. Wilson and John W. Mallet should be included in the list.

So far as is now known to the secretary here, there are sixty members of the order now resident in Virginia. It is the earnest endeavor of the secretary to include every member of the order in the State in his list, and any effort to assist him in thus perfecting the list will be thoroughly appreciated by the society.

Perhaps So.
It is told in Gath that Patti refused to sing in Richmond because the advance sale of tickets did not reach \$5,000. From what we have read in the paper 24 other towns Richmond may be just \$5,000 "in."—Norfolk Landmark.

Sir Graham Berry, who has just died in England, was the inspirer of Tennyson's stirring poem, "The Fleet." He read a paper in 1856 before the Royal Colonial Institute in which he appealed for a strong imperial navy, and a few days afterward Tennyson's poem appeared.

Credit is Your Daily Helper.

The charge account in the average dry goods store is a source of convenience for the wealthy shopper. We have just as many people of wealth benefiting by our charge system as any other first-class establishment. We couldn't figure, though, why the wage-earners should be discriminated against—denied privileges on one hand that were given to a select few on the other, simply because one lacked a fat bank account and the other didn't. We draw no such distinction. We have found in our business career that honesty is as quick a pay to bank on as any other asset. Therefore, don't hesitate in ordering an account on our books arranged for in your name. If weekly or monthly payments will help you in your calculations, it's all the same to us.

Remember, you buy everything at cash prices.

NEW ARRIVAL Spring Dress Goods NOW READY FOR INSPECTION. NEW STYLES IN 1904 PERCALES.

Julius Sytle & Sons.

BE QUICK!

ALPHA CEMENT
Steel Roofing
AND
TIN PLATE.

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